

English 11/AP English Language and Composition  
O'Connor Short Story Presentations

On Tuesday and Wednesday 18-19 September, we will have presentations of the O'Connor stories. You are responsible only for your own story but should have a good, memorable way of presenting the information below:

Content

A. Summarize the story. Introduce the main characters, situation, setting, and plot in a clear and concise way.

B. What is the story's argument? Be as specific as you can while still keeping your statement universal. Be sure your statement of argument touches on the main themes we have encountered in O'Connor's writing. Each group has at least one person who has read the *Spiritual Writings* book; the themes suggested there give us insight into O'Connor's ideas as well.

C. How does the story support the argument? Give 3-5 categories in which you can provide evidence for the argument. If the group members have supported a common argument statement in different ways, make that clear. If the results are divergent, just be clear about your findings.

As we have discussed, categories for evidence may come from the elements of fiction, from a SOAPSTone analysis (or a partial analysis of this kind), or from the rhetorical appeals.

Presentation

Presentations should be well organized, well presented, and interesting. Classmates should be able to take good notes on what you offer because the structure should be clear. You may do a PowerPoint or a short, well organized handout to support your ideas.

You should use no time for set-up; any PowerPoint should be emailed to me the night before. We cannot wait for students to write on a board, though one partner may write while the other talks, etc.

Practice and time your presentation. Presentations should be about 10 minutes long.

Accountability

While a student is only required to read her own story, the presentations should allow students to expand their knowledge of the stories overall and what they tend to do.

Students will write a synthesis of the presentations to distill the major tenets of an O'Connor story. This synthesis will take the form of a SOAPSTone analysis completed on Friday 21 September.